SYSTEM FOR EXPRESSION OF GENES IN PLANTS

Abstract

[00122] The present invention provides trans-complementation systems for expressing gene products in plants. In general, the invention provides systems including a carrier vector and a producer vector, both based on plant viruses. The producer vector is defective for at least one function needed for successful systemic infection of a plant, e.g., replication, cell-to-cell movement, or long distance movement. The carrier vector supplies the missing function in *trans*. Certain producer vectors lack a functional coat protein coding sequence, in which case the corresponding producer vector supplies coat protein in *trans*. The invention also provides novel plant viral vectors and methods of use, e.g., to produce polypeptides or active RNAs in plants.

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